

--9. A method for improving the chemicals resistance, reducing the swelling, and improving the stress-cracking resistance of styrene copolymers, comprising the step of adding phyllosilicates to said styrene copolymers.

10. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the chemicals resistance is improved with respect to chemicals selected from alcohols, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkanes, gasoline, premium gasoline, diesel, halogenated hydrocarbons, hypochlorite salts, and sodium dichloroisocyanate dihydrate.

11. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the phyllosilicates used have been selected from kaolinite types, serpentine types, pyrophyllite, and silicates of mica type, and mica.

12. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the styrene copolymers have been built up from components A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D, and E, using:

a: as component A, from 20 to 100% by weight, based on the entirety of components A + B, of a hard component made from one or more copolymers of styrene and/or  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene with acrylonitrile, the proportion of acrylonitrile being from 10 to 50% by weight,

b: from 0 to 80% by weight, based on the entirety of components A + B, of at least one graft copolymer B made from

b1: as component B1, from 10 to 90% by weight of at least one elastomeric particulate graft base with a glass transition temperature below 0°C, and

b2: as component B2, from 10 to 90% by weight of at least one graft made from

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polystyrene or from a copolymer of styrene and/or  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene with acrylonitrile, the proportion of acrylonitrile being from 10 to 50% by weight, where the entirety of the components A + B used is from 10 to 100 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used,

- c: as component C, from 0.05 to 5 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of a phyllosilicate,
- d: as component D, from 0 to 90 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of at least one polycarbonate, and
- e: as component E, from 0 to 20 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of other conventional auxiliaries and fillers.

13. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the proportion of acrylonitrile in components A, and, where appropriate, B2 of the styrene copolymers is less than 28% by weight, based on each appropriate component.

14. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the proportion of acrylonitrile is from 18 to 27% by weight.

15. A thermoplastic molding composition built up from components A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D and E,

using

- a: as component A, from 20 to 100% by weight, based on the entirety of components A + B, of a hard component made from one or more copolymers of styrene and/or  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene with acrylonitrile, the proportion of acrylonitrile

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being from 10 to 50% by weight,

b: from 0 to 80% by weight, based on the entirety of components A + B, of at least one graft copolymer B made from

b1: as component B 1, from 10 to 90% by weight of at least one elastomeric particulate graft base with a glass transition temperature below 0°C, and

b2: as component B2, from 10 to 90% by weight of at least one graft made from polystyrene or from a copolymer of styrene and/or α- methyl styrene with acrylonitrile, the proportion of acrylonitrile being from 10 to 50% by weight,

where the entirety of the components A + B used is from 10 to 100 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used,

c: as component C, from 0.05 to 5 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of a phyllosilicate,

d: as component D, from 0 to 90 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of at least one polycarbonate, and

e: as component E, from 0 to 20 parts by weight, based on the total weight of the components used, of other conventional auxiliaries and fillers,

wherein the proportion of acrylonitrile in components A, and where appropriate, B2 of the styrene copolymers is less than 28% by weight, based on each appropriate component.

16. The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the proportion of acrylonitrile is from 18 to 27% by weight.

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17. A process for preparing styrene polymers with improved chemicals resistance, built up from components A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D, and E, as claimed in claim 12, which comprises separately preparing A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D, and E, combining component A with component C, and intimately mixing and then extruding the same with components B, D, and E, as appropriate.

18. A process for preparing styrene polymers with improved chemicals resistance, built up from components A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D, and E, as claimed in claim 13, which comprises separately preparing A, C, and, where appropriate, B, D, and E, combining component A with component C, and intimately mixing and then extruding the same with components B, D, and E, as appropriate. —